Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *Apr 10, 1997*   .

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3_____ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) *1-9*_____ is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) *1-9*_____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is   ☐approved   ☐disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

   ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None   of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

   ☐ received.

   ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

   ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   *Certified copies not received: _____ .

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- *SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES* ---

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1.   This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for

examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

2.   The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every

feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "preview button" must be shown

or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(9). No new matter should be entered.

Specification

3.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: At page 21, line 15

to 16 As in Fig. 14(a), " the page has been split into two main columns. The right-hand column

has an image 1404 that", the image 1404 not shown on Fig. 14(a). Appropriate correction is

required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and
> process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any
> person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to
> make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of
> carrying out his invention.

Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject

matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one

skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had

possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 3 and 7 recite further including the step allowing the user to lock the size of

selected text, but the specifiaction does not disclose the method or procedure to perform the

functionin.

5.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and
> distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2, 6, 4, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claims 2 and 6 which recite "s primary split direction", this is indefinite

for being meaningless, there is no word "s". It is suggested that "s" be changed to "a".

With respect to claims 4, 8 and 9 which recite "step if performed when", there is no verb
- suggest changing "if " to "is".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita et

al (U.S. 5,555,362, 9/96), in view of BORLAND, QUATTRO PRO User's Guide, 1992, and

Lemay, Teach Yourself Web Publishing with HTML in a Week, 1995.

With respect to claim 1:

As seen FIG 1 and in page 3 Yamashita et al disclose a method use the vertical and

horizontal separator to do layout area segmentation comprising

(1) Input unit 1A (include Image input unit 2, Command and data input unit 5 and Input

judgement unit 6).

(2) Processing unit 1B.

(3) Record unit 1C.

(4) Output unit 1D.

Receiving step is shown FIG 1 Reference 1A, Display step is shown FIG 1 Reference 1D. As

seen in page 3 lines 11 to 14 "The common and data by which the user executes various

processing are selected and input by command and data input units 5 using such as mouse sent to

corresponding section of the processing units 1B through the input judgement unit 6". The split

determining step is shown where the judgement unit determines the further splits needed, then

the processing unit 1B and record unit 1C perform the area segmentation. The determining step is

shown in page 5 lines 9 to 18 "If a vertical separator 37 for segmenting the whole of an image

excluding the image area into several areas is found, the image is further segmented by using the

separator 37. Then, if a horizontal separator 38 capable of segmenting each area into several

areas is again found. It is further segmented into small areas by using separator. Thus the whole

of the image is segmented into area groups constituting a tree structure by repeating recursive

segmentation while alternately using the vertical and horizontal separators.", and in lines 41 to 42

"The results of image segmentation are display in an image window 50 of display unit",

Yamashita does not disclose the Web page, However, The Lemay shown many Web Page editors

and Converters offer tools to perform Web page design, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the computer art at the time of applicants' invention was made to apply Lemay

tools to Yamashita's method because of the tool shown by Lemay teach us technique to coding

the Web Page.

With respect to dependent claim 2 dependent from claim 1:

That is similarly Yamashita et al's Command and data input units, and Borland

QUATTRO PRO users' guide p.121-122 shown user select the print orientation either Portrait (

vertically) or Landscape (horizontally) by check box. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time applicants' invention was made to apply Borland's select

indication method to Yamashita's input command, because of Borland taught advantage of using

check button instead of input command and the inherent directional nature of seletive,

orientation.

With respect to dependent claim 3 dependent from claim 1:

Borland QUATTRO user's guide p.77 shows user selecting the text font and size. It

would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the computer art at the time of

applicants' invention to implement Borland's teaching with Yamashita to lock the size of text.

because the text size will be fixed when the text font style and size are selected.

With respect to dependent claim 4 dependent from claim 1:

Borland QUATTRO user's guide p.129 teaches us print view button to see an onscreen

preview of how the document will appear, so the "view table" would have been an obvious

addition to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply toYamashita,

because the "view table" is same as print view button.

With respect to claim 5:

Claim 5 contains the same subject matters as claim 1 except the "generating an internal

representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or by

columns in according with the split determining step", that is shown by Yamashita et al at page 4,

lines 5 "As result, a layout model is generated by the model generator unit 7 and the data for the

layout model is record in layout storage unit 10", and is similarly rejected.

With respect to dependent claim 6 dependent from claim 5:

Claim 6 is a combination of claim 2 and claim 5 is similarly rejected.

With respect to dependent claim 7 dependent from claim 5:

Claim 7 is a combination of claim 3 and claim 5 is similarly rejected

With respect to dependent claim 8 dependent from claim 5:

Yamashita shown the layout model generating step at page 4, lines 8-10 "The layout

model is also displayed on screen display unit 13, which is modified by layout model generation

unit 7, when the user inputs a correction command(step 26)", and Lemay Web Publishing with

HTML p.306 teaches us use the "submit" button to publish the web page. It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention to apply Lemay's

"submit" button to the Yamashita's user input command, because Lemay's taught advantage of

use the input button instead of input command.

With respect to dependent claim 9 dependent from claim 5:

Yamashita shown "the layout model is also display on the screen display unit 13, which is modified by the layout generation unit 7, when the user inputs correction command", Lemay p.348 teaches us use a "test" button to preview your work. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention was made to apply the "test" button to Yamashita's user input comman, because of Lemay's taught advantage of use the input button instead of input command.

Conclusion

7.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leon L.Chang whose telephone number is (703) 306 - 5573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM except each second Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anton Fetting, can be reached on (703) 305 - 8449. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 308 - 5403.

Art Unit:2777

9. Any response to this action should be mail to:

Commission of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to :

(703) 308 - 9051, (for formal communications intended fo entry)

Or:

(703) 305 - 9724, (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

ANTON FETTING
PRIMARY EXAMINER

lc

April 14, 1999